

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically establishing a wireless coverage cell using a repeater, comprising:

detecting, at a switch, a notification signal from a previously undetected first repeater coupled to the switch at a location, the first repeater having been coupled to the switch via an Ethernet connection;

transmitting software from the switch to the first repeater to configure the first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and one or more mobile stations;

receiving at the switch a periodic communication signal from the first repeater that establishes communication between the first repeater and the switch;

in response to the communication signal, automatically configuring the first repeater to enable the first repeater to wirelessly communicate with a mobile station and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location; and

once the first repeater has been configured, optionally associating the mobile station with the repeater without the knowledge of user of the mobile station;

wherein a new wireless coverage cell is automatically established when the repeater is coupled to the switch.

2. (Previously Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving the software at the first repeater; and
executing the software to configure the first repeater communicating with the switch and the mobile station.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the switch receiving a signal that indicates completion of the configuration.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining whether the first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein if the first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:
disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and
re-associating the mobile station with the first repeater.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
detecting decoupling the first repeater from the switch; and
signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the first repeater from the switch.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and
associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the re-association is performed transparently to a user of the mobile station.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

drawing power from the switch to power up the first repeater;
performing an initialization within the first repeater; and
transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate the presence of the first repeater.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for automatically establishing a wireless coverage cell using a repeater, comprising:

means for detecting, at a switch, a notification signal from a previously undetected first repeater coupled to the switch at a location, the first repeater having been coupled to the switch via an Ethernet connection;

means for transmitting software from the switch to the first repeater to configure the first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and one or more mobile stations;

means for receiving at the switch a periodic communication signal from the first repeater that establishes communication between the first repeater and the switch

in response to the communication signal, means for automatically configuring the first repeater to enable the first repeater to wirelessly communicate with a mobile station and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location; and

means for optionally associating the mobile station with the repeater without the knowledge of user of the mobile stations;

wherein a new wireless coverage cell is automatically established when the repeater is coupled to the switch.

12. (Previously Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for receiving the software at the first repeater; and

means for executing the software to configure the first repeater communicating with the switch and the mobile station.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a completion of the configuration.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for determining whether the first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein if the first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:

means for disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and
means for re-associating the mobile station with the first repeater.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for detecting decoupling the first repeater from the switch; and
means for signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the first repeater from the switch.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:

means for locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and
means for associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the re-association is performed transparently to a user of the mobile station.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for drawing power from the switch to power up the first repeater;
means for performing an initialization within the first repeater; and
means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate the presence of the first repeater.

21. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having executable code to cause a machine to perform a method for automatically establishing a wireless coverage cell using a repeater, the method comprising:

detecting, at a switch, a notification signal from a previously undetected first repeater coupled to the switch at a location, the first repeater having been coupled to the switch via an Ethernet connection;

uploading software from the switch to the first repeater to enable the first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and one or more mobile stations;

receiving a periodic communication signal from the first repeater that establishes a communication connection between the first repeater and the switch

in response to the communication signal, automatically configuring the first repeater to enable the first repeater to wirelessly communicate with the one or more mobile stations and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location; and

optionally associating the mobile station with the repeater without the knowledge of user of the mobile station,

wherein a new wireless coverage cell is established when the repeater is coupled to the switch.

22. (Previously Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving the software at the first repeater; and

executing the software to configure the first repeater communicating with the switch and the mobile station.

24. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the method further comprises the switch receiving a signal that indicates completion of the configuration.

25. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises

determining whether the first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

26. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein if the first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:

disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and
re-associating the mobile station with the first repeater.

27. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

detecting decoupling the first repeater from the switch; and
signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the first repeater from the switch.

28. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the method further comprises:

locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and

associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

29. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the re-association is performed transparently to a user of the mobile station.

30. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

drawing power from the switch to power up the first repeater;

performing an initialization within the first repeater; and

transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate the presence of the first repeater.

Claims 31 - 44. (Previously Cancelled).